

**Town of Chester
Board of Selectmen Meeting
Thursday, May 11th, 2017
Municipal Complex
Approved Minutes**

I Preliminaries

Call the Meeting to Order
Roll Call
Pledge of Allegiance
Chairman’s Additions and Deletions
Public Comment
Approval of Minutes
New Members of Fire Department
Highway Budget, Hart Roberts Road
Items for Signature
Roundtable
Non–Public Sessions
Adjournment

1.1 Call to Order

Chairman Landau called this meeting of the Town of Chester Board of Selectmen to order at 7:03pm.

1.2 Roll Call

Selectmen present:

Cass Buckley
Jack Cannon
Joseph Hagan
Stephen Landau
Dick Trask

Members of the Public present, at various times:

Steve D’Angelo
Greg Bolduc, Fire Chief
Myrick Bunker, Building Inspector
Ben Clark, Deputy Fire Chief
Colin Costine
Michael Oleson, Road Agent
Penny Williams, Tri-Town Times

1.3 Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Landau led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.4 Chairman’s Additions and Deletions

There will be two short non-public sessions under (c) Reputation and (e) Pending Litigation.

1.5 Public Comments

Chairman Landau stated that the results of Tuesday’s elections were extremely close and that the Supervisors of the Checklist had recommended a recount for the two open Selectmen positions. This is scheduled for Tuesday, May 16th, 2016 at 6pm. As a result, although other elected officials may be sworn in at Town Meeting on Saturday, the Selectmen will not.

Steve D’Angelo stood and was recognized. He asked if, as he was not able to attend the recount, he was allowed send a representative; he may do so.

As no other Members of the Public wished to be heard, Public Comment was closed at 7:08pm.

II. Old Business

2.1 Approval of Minutes

An approval sheet for previous weeks’ meeting minutes is in the signature folder.

III. New Business

3.1 New Members of Fire Department – Fire Chief Bolduc, Colin Costine, Myrick Bunker

Fire Chief Bolduc appeared before the Selectmen with Mr. Costine and Mr. Bunker, two potential additions to the Fire Department.

Mr. Bunker, who also serves as the Town’s Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer, is a fully certified firefighter and previously served as a Deputy Fire Chief in another town. Mr. Costine is a former member of the Chester Fire Department who would like to come back as a driver. Deputy Fire Chief Ben Clark is currently in the process of creating a drivers’ refresher class to bring all drivers up to speed on all of the Fire Department’s vehicles.

Selectman Cannon moved that the Board go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (c) Reputation; Selectman Buckley seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; motion carried.

The meeting room was closed at 7:12pm. Fire Chief Bolduc remained in the meeting room.

The meeting room was re-opened at 7:24pm.

Selectman Cannon moved that the Board come out of non-public session; Selectman Hagan seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; motion carried.

Selectman Cannon moved that the minutes to the non-public session on Reputation be sealed for an indefinite period; Selectman Buckley seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; motion carried.

Selectman Cannon moved to conditionally support the appointment of Colin Costine and Myrick Bunker as Firefighters upon review and approval of paperwork; Vice-Chairman Trask seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; motion carried.

Mr. Costine departed the meeting at 7:24pm; Fire Chief Bolduc remained and Mr. Bunker, now acting as Building Inspector, returned to the meeting table.

3.2 Highway Budget & Hart Roberts Road – Road Agent Oleson

Road Agent Oleson appeared before the Selectmen with Fire Chief Bolduc and Building Inspector Bunker to discuss Hart Roberts Road.

As mentioned at a previous meeting, one of the residents of this road had hooked into the Town’s culvert and installed sprinklers in the Town’s right of way. Both of these issues have been cured. This resident, however, had also cut down trees in the Town’s right of way that were serving as buffers to prevent vehicles from sliding off of the road. Although it was determined that he had cut them thinking they were his, something still needs to be done to find a replacement for them. It is unlikely that the resident can be compelled to pay for the correction without litigation.

Road Agent Oleson believes that at the bare minimum the road should be raised and leveled, graveled, widened by 5’, a pullover added (as it is currently impossible for two trucks to pass each other), and ~500’ of guardrail installed. Road Agent Oleson’s estimate of \$40k for this might be lowered if a contractor is willing to install Town-owned guardrails rather than providing their own. He expects this work to take about a week.

Chairman Landau asked about turning it into a private road. Per Road Agent Oleson, this road has been maintained by the Town for decades; there had been a Warrant Article to turn it private at the 1996 Town Meeting, but due to objections from “abutters and close landowners”, the Warrant Article had been tabled. Some investigation needs to be done. Road Agent Olson noted that if further development was planned for Hart Roberts Road, the developer would have to rebuild the road.

Selectman Hagan moved that Road Agent Oleson prepare an estimate of the Hart Roberts Road project in order to investigate the possibility of litigation; Selectman Cannon seconded the motion. The vote was four in favor with Chairman Landau abstaining; motion carried.

Road Agent Oleson reported that he and Building Inspector Bunker are working together to hopefully prevent issues before homes are built.

Fire Chief Bolduc and Building Inspector Bunker departed the meeting at 7:55pm.

Road Agent Oleson reported that he still has \$5k left from the \$20k that the Selectmen granted him on April 20th, 2017. He has already graded roads and performed shoulder work, and believes that the \$5k should last until the first of June if no problems arise; however, beavers are beginning to be an issue, and beaver mitigation costs money. The county workers will be back in Town the fourth week of May; he should be able to utilize their services, if needed. Any additional funding will be revisited on the first of June.

Jeff Adler of Dubois & King is currently making drainage calculations for Shattigee Road; this work will be done in-house with funding available via the Planning Board. Pulpit Rock Road was paved today; once the shoulder work is done, it can come off of the CIP list. East Derry Road needs asphalt where the culvert was repaired, as it has sunk a little.

Road Agent Oleson departed the meeting at 8:02pm.

3.3 Items for Signature

There were a number of items to be signed.

The Recreation Department has asked to spend down the Wason Pond Recreation Capital Reserve Fund in its entirety in order to purchase protective fencing for the planned baseball fields at Wason Pond. The Chester Baseball/Softball group will hire a contractor and install the fencing. There is some concern with private association erecting structures on Town-owned land, and the potential that it will cost more to

maintain the area around the fences. The Selectmen asked to see a diagram of where these fences are to be placed before giving permission; the Recreation Department will be contacted.

IV. Selectmen’s Business

4.1 Roundtable

Selectman Cannon:

- Selectman Cannon thanked Chairman Landau and Selectman Hagan for serving the Town as Selectmen for many years; he has learned much from them, and in his opinion the Town owes them a debt of gratitude.

Selectman Buckley:

- Nothing to report.

Vice-Chairman Trask:

- The American Legion is having their Installation Dinner at 6:30pm tomorrow night (Friday, May 12th, 2017).

Selectman Hagan:

- Selectman Hagan gave a brief tribute to recently passed State Rep William Polewarczyk.
- He thanked Chairman Landau for his fifteen years of service to the Board of Selectmen, saying that it was a sad day when he was not re-elected. He is also leaving the Board after serving six years; he noted that while the Selectmen may disagree amongst themselves, they all have the best interests of the Town in mind.

Chairman Landau:

- There will be a party in Manchester on Tuesday, May 30th, 2017 from 5pm – 7pm for the retirement of David Preece, Executive Director of Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission. Mr. Preece has been very helpful to the Town over the years. **Chairman Landau moved to send a gift card to his favorite restaurant to Mr. Preece in honor of his retirement; Selectman Buckley seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; motion carried.**
- Water samples will be taken on the LeClair property on Friday, May 19th, as well as from wells on Raven Drive, Fremont Road, and Hale True Road. Those residents have been asked to notify the Town if anyone attempts to make changes to their water treatment. The contractor will let the Police Department know in advance which vehicles will be onsite.

4.2 Public Comment

As no Members of the Public wished to be heard, Public Comment was closed at 8:22pm.

4.3 Non-Public Sessions

Chairman Landau moved that the Board go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (c) Reputation and (e) Pending Litigation; Selectman Hagan seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; motion carried.

The meeting room was closed at 8:23pm.

The meeting room was re-opened at 8:35pm.

Vice-Chairman Trask moved that the Board come out of non-public session; Chairman

Landau seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; motion carried.

Selectman Hagan moved that the minutes to the second non-public session, on Pending Litigation, be sealed for a period of ninety (90) days; Vice-Chairman Trask seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; motion carried.

Selectman Hagan moved that the minutes to the third non-public session, on Reputation, be sealed for an indefinite period; Vice-Chairman Trask seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; motion carried.

V. Adjournment

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Selectmen will be Thursday, May 18th, 2017.

Chairman Landau moved to adjourn the meeting; Selectman Hagan seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:37pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra H. Doda
Recording Secretary