

**Town of Chester  
Board of Selectmen’s Meeting  
Thursday, May 27, 2021  
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  
300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee Appointment  
Reappointments  
Retention of Retiring Police Cruiser  
Assignment of Liaison Positions  
Roundtable  
Potential Non-Public Sessions  
Adjournment

*1.1 Call to Order*

Chairman Myette called the meeting of the Chester Board of Selectmen to order at 7:00pm.

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 (Present Remotely):

Chuck Myette  
Steve D’Angelo  
Stephen Landau  
Steve Couture

Selectmen absent:  
Jeremy Owens

Town Administrator Debra Doda (Present Remotely)

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

Aaron Berube, Police Chief  
Jack Cannon  
Victor Chouinard

Marie Davies  
Jeff Dinopoulos  
Phil Gladu, Acting Fire Chief  
Nancy Hoijer  
Aaron Hume  
Liz Lufkin, Town Clerk/ Tax Collector  
Billie Maloney  
Kathie Ragsdale  
Corinna Reishus, Recreation Director  
Liz Richter  
Evan Sederquest  
Rick Snyder  
Mike Weider  
Penny Williams, Raymond Area News  
PACT

and other persons unknown to the Recording Secretary.

### *1.3 Pledge of Allegiance*

Chairman Myette led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### *1.4 Chairman’s Additions or Deletions*

None

### *1.5 Public Comment*

Chairman Myette opened the meeting to public comment at 7:01pm.

As no Members of the Public wished to be heard, Public Comment was closed at 7:02pm.

## **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**

### *3.1 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee Appointment*

Mr. Dinopoulos mentioned he was taking over Jack Cannon’s recently vacated position on the 300<sup>th</sup> and hopes to assist the 300<sup>th</sup> in any way possible.

**Selectman Landau motioned to appoint Jeff Dinopoulos as a regular member of the 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee with a term to expire on May 18, 2023. Selectman Couture seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Myette – aye, D’Angelo – aye, Owens – absent, Couture – aye, Landau – aye. With all in favor, the motion passed unanimously with Owens absent.**

### *3.2 Reappointments to Committees and Commissions*

#### *3.2.1 Conservation Commission & 3.2.2 Conservation Representative to Wason Pond*

Kathie Ragsdale summarized she has been on the Conservation Commission for a few years and joined because she loves the rural character that makes Chester what it is. Selectman Couture mentioned he has a background in the conservation field and can be a resource to the Commission if needed.

Victor Chouinard, Conservation Commission Chairman, is in support of Ms. Ragsdale being reappointed. She is the treasurer for the Commission and is very dependable. The kiosk on North Pond Road was recently refurbished by her and her husband. The Commission appreciates having her on board.

**Selectman Landau motioned to appoint Kathleen Neff Ragsdale as a regular member of the Conservation Commission and as a regular member of the Conservation Commission Representative to the Wason Pond Commission with a term to expire on May 31, 2024. Selectman Couture seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Myette – aye, D’Angelo – aye, Owens – absent, Couture – aye, Landau – aye. With all in favor, the motion passed unanimously with Owens absent.**

#### *3.2.3 Recreation Commission*

Marie Davies pointed out she has been participating with Recreation for years as a volunteer and would like to ensure the proper support for the programs.

**Selectman Couture motioned to appoint Marie Davies as a regular member of the Recreation Commission with a term to expire on May 31, 2024. Selectman Landau seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Myette – aye, D’Angelo – aye, Owens – absent, Couture – aye, Landau – aye. With all in favor, the motion passed unanimously with Owens absent.**

#### *3.2.4 PACT Committee*

Jack Cannon explained he can help support the improvements for broadcast quality and programming.

**Selectman Landau motioned to appoint Jack Cannon as a regular member of the PACT Committee with a term to expire on May 31, 2024. Selectman Couture seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Myette – aye, D’Angelo – aye, Owens – absent, Couture – aye, Landau – aye. With all in favor, the motion passed unanimously with Owens absent.**

#### *3.2.5 Zoning Board of Adjustments*

Mr. Cannon mentioned the town is very lucky to have a high caliber of people on the ZBA. This is one of the stronger boards in the town.

**Selectman Landau motioned to appoint Jack Cannon as a regular member of the Zoning Board of Adjustment with a term to expire on May 31, 2024. Selectman Couture seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Myette – aye, D’Angelo – aye, Owens – absent, Couture – aye, Landau – aye. With all in favor, the motion passed unanimously with Owens absent.**

### *3.2.6 Spring Hill Farm Advisory Committee*

Chairman Myette has been involved with Spring Hill Farm Advisory Committee since it started and represents the Trust on the board.

**Selectman Landau motioned to appoint Chuck Myette as a regular member of the Spring Hill Farm Advisory Committee with a term to expire on May 31, 2024. Selectman Couture seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Myette – aye, D’Angelo – abstained, Owens – absent, Couture – aye, Landau – aye. The motion passed 3-0-1 with Owens absent.**

### *(Con’t) 3.2.5 Zoning Board of Adjustments*

Billie Maloney agreed to continue with the ZBA for another term.

**Selectman Landau motioned to appoint Billie Maloney as a regular member of the Zoning Board of Adjustments with a term to expire on May 31, 2024. Selectman Couture seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Myette – aye, D’Angelo – aye, Owens – absent, Couture – aye, Landau – aye. With all in favor, the motion passed unanimously with Owens absent.**

### *3.2.7 Planning Board*

Evan Sederquest pointed out he has been on the Planning Board since 1994.

Liz Richter stated it has truly been a pleasure and an honor to be on the Planning Board since 2008. This board has a lot of important responsibilities and duties to the town.

Aaron Hume is the newest member of the Board and wishes to continue to be involved.

**Selectman Landau motioned to appoint Evan Sederquest, Liz Richter, and Aaron Hume as members of the Planning Board with a term to expire on May 31, 2024. Selectman Couture seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Myette – aye, D’Angelo – aye, Owens – absent, Couture – aye, Landau – aye. With all in favor, the motion passed unanimously with Owens absent.**

Selectman Couture thanked all the volunteers for electing to be reappointed and for their continued service to the town.

### *3.3 Retention of Retiring Police Cruiser*

Town Administrator Doda explained at Town Meeting a new cruiser was voted in. Currently the Police Department has four (4) cruisers, one (1) truck and a Lexus that was donated to the town a few years ago. When the town employed 4 full time officers, we had 4 cruisers and now with eight (8) full time officers we still have only 4 cruisers. This cruiser we are asking to retain would be for the officers to use to transport officers to court, classes, and such. It also shows that the town values

their officers when they are able to drive a town branded vehicle to either court or to a class instead of their personal vehicles.

Police Chief Berube noted he is in the process of ordering a new cruiser for the upcoming year. This cruiser was the replacement cruiser from the 2016 cruiser that was totaled. Keeping the car would be a morale booster for the officers and would be advantageous to the town in respect to the amount of money we might get if traded in. The current mileage on the car is approximately 125k with a trade in estimate between 2-4K.

Chairman Myette asked if the vehicle had any major repairs needed. Police Chief Berube noted the water pump had recently been replaced by the dealership. Selectman Landau asked how long the car is expected to be retained. Police Chief Berube commented this car would be replaced next year and the same number of vehicles would be retained.

**Selectman Couture motioned to retain the police cruiser. Selectman Landau seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Myette – aye, D’Angelo – nay, Owens – absent, Couture – aye, Landau – aye. The motion passed 3-1-0 with Owens absent.**

Selectman Landau would like to review this vehicle again next year. TA Doda will put a reminder in her calendar.

### *3.4 Assignment of Liaison Positions*

Chairman Myette commented Vice-Chairman Owens asked for Police, Recreation and Highway based on his workload.

Selectman Couture recommended having a backup liaison to the departments when the Town Administrator is unavailable.

Chairman Myette pointed out that Town Administrator Doda’s position is that of an Town Administrator and not a Town Manager. Discussions and issues are funneled to the BOS from the Town Administrator. It is beneficial to the commissions and committees to have a BOS liaison and a back up to the departments.

<b><i>Department</i></b>	<b><i>Function of Liaison</i></b>	<b><i>2021-2022 BOS Liaisons</i></b>
<i>300th Anniversary Committee</i>	<i>Attend Meeting; Update BOS</i>	<i>Steph</i>
<i>Assessing</i>		<i>Steve C</i>
<i>Budget Committee</i>	<i>Attend Meeting (Ex-Officio); Update BOS</i>	<i>Steve C</i>
<i>Building Inspector</i>		<i>Steve D</i>
<i>Cemeteries</i>	<i>Attend Meeting; Update BOS</i>	<i>Steph</i>
<i>Conservation</i>	<i>Attend Meeting; Update BOS</i>	<i>Chuck; Steve C as backup</i>
<i>Emergency Management</i>		<i>Steve C; Steph as backup</i>
<i>Fire Dept. &amp; Reg. Hazmat</i>		<i>Chuck</i>
<i>Health Officer</i>		<i>Steve D</i>
<i>Highway Department</i>		<i>Jeremy</i>

<i>Joint Loss Management Committee</i>		<i>Steve D</i>
<i>Library</i>		<i>Steve C</i>
<i>Maintenance/Groundskeeping</i>		<i>Steph; Steve D as backup</i>
<i>PACT</i>	<i>Attend Meeting; Update BOS</i>	<i>Steve D</i>
<i>Planning Board</i>	<i>Attend Meeting (Ex-Officio); Update BOS</i>	<i>Chuck</i>
<i>Police &amp; Highway Safety</i>		<i>Jeremy</i>
<i>Recreation</i>	<i>Attend Meeting; Update BOS</i>	<i>Jeremy</i>
<i>School Board</i>	<i>Attend Meeting; Update BOS</i>	<i>Steve C</i>
<i>Senior Citizens</i>		<i>Steve D</i>
<i>Spring Hill Farm Advisory Committee</i>	<i>Attend Meeting; Update BOS</i>	<i>Steph</i>
<i>Technical Review Committee</i>		<i>Steve D as backup</i>
<i>Town Administrator</i>		<i>Chuck</i>
<i>Town Clerk</i>		<i>Steve C</i>
<i>Transfer Station</i>		<i>Chuck</i>
<i>Wason Pond</i>	<i>Attend Meeting; Update BOS</i>	<i>Chuck</i>
<i>Welfare</i>		<i>Steph</i>
<i>ZBA</i>	<i>Attend Meeting; Update BOS</i>	<i>Steve D</i>

Town Administrator Doda will update the list and send it out next week.

#### **IV. Selectmen’s Business**

##### *4.1 Roundtable*

Selectman Landau has one non-public under legal. Selectman Landau spoke to Michael Bean of Charters Brothers regarding Stevens Hall. The project was not well presented at Town Meeting. Selectman Landau is recommending Stevens Hall be placed on the CIP with estimates from Charters Brothers. This would go before the Planning Board and Budget Committee in July with Mr. Bean explaining what the building needs for repairs with estimates for the repairs.

Selectman D’Angelo stated the resources available with the CIP might be limited. Between now and July the board needs to have a discussion around what resources and funding can we get to fix Stevens Hall.

Selectman Landau advised before going to the Planning Board, a meeting will be scheduled to get more information on what the building needs. There is a possibility of having the leaks and gutter issue fixed this year. Selectman D’Angelo pointed out that there is a possible surplus that can be used this year to fix a few things on the building.

Selectman D’Angelo:  
*Nothing to report.*

Selectman Couture asked for clarification on the Covid- 19 policy and how the meetings will be going forward. Chairman Myette advised the next meeting will be a discussion with weigh in from acting Fire Chief, Emergency Management, and the Recreation Director. Municipal Buildings and indoor activities will need to be discussed based on the CDC and state recommendations.

Chairman Myette announced the following meetings and events are coming up:

Monday May 31, 2021                      Town offices closed to observe Memorial Day  
Lions Club Memorial Service at the town center at 9:00 followed by  
American Legion meeting for coffee and muffins.

Wednesday, June 2, 2021              Planning Board Meeting at 7:00pm

Thursday, June 3, 2021                Board of Selectmen’s Meeting at 7:00pm

#### *4.2 Non-Public Session(s)*

***Selectman Landau motioned to go into non-public session pursuant to 91-A:3(II) (b) employment, (c) reputation, (e) pending litigation, and (I) legal advice. Selectman Couture seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken, Owens – absent, D’Angelo – aye, Landau – aye, Myette – aye and Couture – aye. With all in favor, the motion passed unanimously with Owens absent.***

The meeting was closed to the public at 8:35 pm.

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

The meeting was reopened to the public at 9:20 PM.

***Selectman Landau motioned to seal the minutes of the first non-public session, on Legal Advice, for a period of sixty (60) days. Selectman Couture seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken, Owens – absent, D’Angelo – aye, Landau – aye, Myette – aye and Couture – aye. With all in favor, the motion passed unanimously with Owens absent.***

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

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

***Selectman Landau motioned to seal the minutes of the fourth non-public session, on Reputation, for a period of sixty (60) days. Selectman Couture seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken, Owens – absent, D’Angelo – aye, Landau – aye, Myette – aye and Couture – aye. With all in favor, the motion passed unanimously with Owens absent.***

#### **V. Adjournment**

313 ***Selectman Landau moved to adjourn the meeting. Selectman D’Angelo seconded the motion A***  
314 ***roll call vote was taken, Owens – absent, D’Angelo – aye, Landau – aye, Myette – aye and***  
315 ***Couture – aye. With all in favor, the motion passed unanimously with Owens absent.***

316  
317 The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 PM.

318  
319 Respectfully submitted,

320  
321 Janis A. Jalbert  
322 Recording Secretary