

**Town of Chester
Board of Selectmen’s Meeting
Thursday, April 21, 2022
Municipal Complex
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
Building Department Discussion
Chairman’s Announcements
Roundtable
TA Report
Action Items
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.

1.2 Roll Call

Selectmen Present:

Chuck Myette
Steve D’Angelo
Stephen Landau
Jeremy Owens

Selectmen absent:

Steve Couture

Town Administrator Debra Doda

Members of the Public Present at various times:

Aaron Berube, Police Chief (Remotely)
Myrick Bunker, Building Inspector
Phil Gladu, Fire Chief
Stacy Manfrates (Remotely)
Nancy Myette
Corinna Reishus, Recreation Director (Remotely)

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

1.5 Public Comment

Chairman Myette opened the meeting to public comment at 7:02pm.

As no Members of the Public wished to be heard, Public Comment was closed at 7:03pm.

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.

III. New Business

3.1 Building Department Discussion

Chairman Myette explained this discussion is about where the department is going, any issues or concerns, staffing, Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) requests, possible grants, and the budget.

Building Inspector Bunker advised there are no long-range goals for the department. The online permitting was discontinued, and he is working on setting up a new permitting and online payments. Also, Block5 has a request for an IPAD to allow credit card payments in the office.

Building Inspector Bunker mentioned Ms. Wilson (not present) is working on getting certified as a Building Inspector. Within about four months she should have her test, and then the next step would be for plans review. Ms. Wilson has been shadowing inspections for about a year and will be starting to go on inspections by herself. Chairman Myette inquired if there is schooling, or classes offered to help. Building Inspector Bunker advised the NH Building Association has been working with NH technical Institute to get a program started for building inspectors, plans examiner, or permit tech in the Fall. These classes will be good for Ms. Wilson as she does not have a background in building or construction.

Inspector Bunker announced the department will have to purchase new code books in July. Although digitized online, RSA requires the town to have four sets. A new fee schedule will be presented to the Board once completed.

Selectman D’Angelo’s only concern is if the nation heads into a recession and builders walk away from housing projects. He pointed out the town does not get involved with disputes between

builders, banks, or customers. Selectman Owens inquired if there are bonds on houses. There are bonds on subdivisions but not on individual homes.

4.1 Chairman’s Announcements

Chairman Myette announced the following meetings and upcoming events:

Wednesday, April 27, 2022	Planning Board Meeting at 7:00pm
Thursday, April 28, 2022	Board of Selectman Meeting at 7:00pm
Saturday, April 23, 2022	Seniors Banquet in the MPR at 5:00pm
Saturday, April 23, 2022	Rabies Clinic 9:30-12pm at Town Hall. Hosted by ARK Animal Homecare - please call ARK soon to get added to the list. You must be pre-registered to participate. The Town Clerk's Office will be open during the clinic for dog licensing only.
Saturday, April 30, 2022	Household Hazardous Waste Day in Plaistow from 9am to 12pm.
Saturday, April 30, 2022	Drug Takeback Day From 10am-2pm at the Transfer Station

Recreation Director Reishus mentioned family open gym will be held from 1pm to 4pm Monday April 25th thru Friday April 29th. Parents must be in attendance. There will be interviews happening for the summer recreation program on Thursday and Friday.

4.2 Roundtable

Selectman Landau asked about closing the Transfer Station on May 7th for the Proclamation. Chairman Myette mentioned in the past if it closed on Saturday they would open on Sunday. The maintenance staff are placing chairs at Stevens Hall for the proclamation with possible help from the Transfer Station employees. The Board felt paying the employees both days would be ok. Selectman D’Angelo inquired about having volunteers from the Fire Department to help on Saturday May 7th. He also asked about the Transfer Station opening early and closing early on September 24th for the parade.

Selectman Landau advised the golf carts were repaired and the town has plenty of popup tents for Proclamation Day. There will be refreshments served on Proclamation Day and the Town Administrator and Board of Selectmen have been requested to be in attendance.

The 300th Anniversary Committee needs tables for the barbeque and maintenance has advised some of the tables in the multipurpose room are broken. Renting tables for the day would be about \$10.25 for 60

“round. Selectman Landau suggested getting pricing on 15-16 tables from Ocean State Job Lots.

Selectman Landau reported Maintenance Director Cavanaugh (not present) has concerns with the multiple alarm companies for different buildings in town. It was suggested to get them all under one company. Some of the contracts ended the last few months and were resigned. It is suggested

to set a deadline to not resign any of the contracts for security. It might be cheaper for the town to have one company handle all the security systems in town. The Board is in agreement.

Selectman Landau pointed out some of the parts for the Multipurpose room floor scrubber are from China and not readily available to fix the machine. Maintenance Director Cavanaugh is still pricing new machines with two quotes received. The range for the quotes is \$7300.00 to \$8300.00. There is money in the budget for this purchase. Chairman Myette suggested renting a unit.

Selectman Landau and Selectman D’Angelo each have one nonpublic.

Selectman D’Angelo:

Nothing to report

Selectman Owens:

Nothing to report

Chairman Myette mentioned the Spring Hill Farm Fall Fest will be on Saturday September 10th, 2022. He mentioned an area of the driveway at Spring Hill farm from Towle Road to just past the High Tunnel needs gravel. It gets really muddy with all the extra traffic from events.

Selectman Landau motioned to purchase no more than \$1000.00 on stone at Spring Hill Farm. Selectman Owens seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Myette – aye, D’Angelo – aye, Owens –aye, Couture –absent, Landau – aye. With four in favor, the motion passed with Couture absent

Selectman D’Angelo questioned what budget would be paying for the item. Selectman Landau advised the money would come from the Spring Hill Farm budget.

4.3 Town Administrator’s Report

Nothing to report

4.4 Action Items

Nothing to report

4.5 Non-Public Session(s)

Chairman Myette announced five non-public sessions on reputation and legal.

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

The meeting was closed to the public at 7:40PM. Fire Chief Gladu remained in the Meeting Room.

Fire Chief Gladu departed the Meeting Room at 7:50PM; Building Inspector Bunker entered the Meeting Room at this time.

Building Inspector Bunker departed the Meeting Room at 7:59PM.

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

The meeting was reopened to the public at 9:07PM.

Selectman Landau motioned to seal the minutes of the first non-public session, on Pending Litigation, for a period of one (1) year. Selectman D’Angelo seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Myette – aye, D’Angelo – aye, Owens –aye, Couture –absent, Landau – aye. With four in favor, the motion passed with Couture absent.

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

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

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

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, D’Angelo – aye, Owens –aye, Couture –absent, Landau – aye. With four in favor, the motion passed with Couture absent.

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, D’Angelo – aye, Owens –aye, Couture –absent, Landau – aye. With four in favor, the motion passed with Couture absent.

Selectman Landau motioned to seal the minutes of the seventh non-public session, on Reputation, for a period of thirty (30) days. Selectman D’Angelo seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Myette – aye, D’Angelo – aye, Owens –aye, Couture –absent, Landau – aye. With four in favor, the motion passed with Couture absent.

V. Adjournment

Selectman Landau moved to adjourn the meeting. Selectman D’Angelo seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Myette – aye, D’Angelo – aye, Owens –aye, Couture –absent, Landau – aye. With four in favor, the motion passed with Couture absent.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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252 Janis A. Jalbert
253 Recording Secretary