

**Town of Chester  
Board of Selectmen Meeting  
Thursday, July 20<sup>th</sup>, 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  
Items for Signature  
Appointment to Planning Board  
Snow Plow Contracts  
Wason Pond Caretaker’s Cottage  
Internet Provider Selection  
Roundtable  
Non-Public Sessions  
Adjournment

*1.1 Call to Order*

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

*1.2 Roll Call*

Selectmen present:

Jack Cannon  
Steve D’Angelo  
Jeremy Owens  
Dick Trask

Selectmen absent:

Cass Buckley

Members of the Public present, at various times:

Joe Castricone  
Chuck Myette, Wason Pond Commission  
Nancy Myette  
Michael Oleson  
Jacob Weider  
Michael Weider  
Penny Williams, Tri-Town Times  
And other persons unknown to the Recording Secretary

*1.3 Pledge of Allegiance*

Chairman Trask led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

*1.4 Chairman’s Additions and Deletions*

Vice-Chairman Cannon requested a non-public session on Compensation.

*1.5 Public Comments*

As no Members of the Public wished to be heard, Public Comment was closed at 7:01pm.

**II. Old Business**

*2.1 Approval of Minutes*

An approval sheet for the previous week’s meeting minutes is in the signature folder. Chairman Trask urged all members to read the minutes and indicate their approval.

*2.2 Items for Signature*

Chairman Trask also urged all members to review the items in the Signature folder.

**III. New Business**

*3.1 Appointment to Planning Board – Jacob Weider*

Mr. Weider appeared before the Selectmen to be appointed as an Alternate to the Planning Board.

The Planning Board has determined that Mr. Weider will only be seated when his father, Michael Weider, is not present in order to avoid any appearance of a conflict of interest caused by two members of the same family sitting on a Board at the same time.

**Selectman D’Angelo moved to appoint Jacob Weider as an Alternate to the Planning Board for a three year term to expire May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020; Selectman Owens seconded the motion. The vote was four in favor with Selectman Buckley absent; motion carried.**

Mr. Weider departed the meeting at 7:03pm.

*3.2 Snow Plow Contracts – Road Agent Oleson*

Road Agent Oleson appeared before the Selectmen to discuss the upcoming Winter season’s Snow Plow Contracts.

He asked Ms. Williams to note that the building mentioned in a Tri-Town Times article on July 13<sup>th</sup> was not the Salt Shed but the Old Salt Shed.

Vice-Chairman Cannon stated that he and Road Agent Oleson had worked together in the past to come up with a metric to determine plow rates each year; the decision was to use the average CPI for durable goods, less fuel, and to use the State’s fuel surcharge. (Bookkeeper Marianne Duffy has a chart to calculate the fuel surcharge.) This season the CPI increase will be 2%.

**Vice-Chairman Cannon moved to authorize Road Agent Oleson to proceed with the new contracts in order to secure Snow Plow services for the 2017-2018 winter season; Selectman D’Angelo seconded the motion. The vote was four in favor with Selectman Buckley absent; motion carried.**

Selectman D’Angelo had a few questions on the Highway budget from Fiscal Year 2016-2017:

- ~\$100k was spent on salt; is that normal? Road Agent Oleson stated that the amount of salt used, and its cost, varies; he uses as little as possible to keep the roads safe. (The Salt Shed is empty now.) The State sets the rate for the area. He tried buying through the State one year, but salt could not be delivered as quickly as he needed it and he ended up spending ~\$8k on trucking costs to pick it up. He now purchases directly from a vendor, which may cost a little more, but the supply line is good.
- Nothing was spent on asphalt, but the cold patch line was overspent. Road Agent Oleson explained that asphalt hardens too quickly to use unless one has 5-6 workers available; cold patch is much more adaptable.
- He was interested in the concept of crack filling. It takes place every year to maintain the roads; it is already scheduled for this year.
- Nothing was spent on culverts. Road Agent Oleson explained that he had replaced culverts, but that he had used Offsite Improvement funds.
- The gas and oil line was underspent. Road Agent Oleson noted that fuel costs were down this year, but added that the Town was adding another truck soon. That truck was being serviced and should be available in a couple of weeks. The Town’s current truck is still at the mechanic with an electronic issue with the transmission.

Road Agent Oleson departed the meeting table at 7:13pm.

### *3.3 Wason Pond Caretaker’s Cottage*

The cottage should be empty by the first of August; what is to be done with it? Chairman Trask suggested that although the inside needs work, the outside is in good shape with a new roof and decks, and the sills were replaced recently. It could be renovated to include bathrooms, a storage closet, and/or a small office that the Summer Program could use. Vice-Chairman Cannon is opposed to spending money on this building. It should be inspected with the Recreation Department and until a decision is made, it should be secured.

Chuck Myette stood and was recognized. He stated that the Wason Pond Commission had been talking about buildings and security, including a camera system, due to the damage and vandalism to the covered bridge. The Police Department had been talking about a Ranger. If someone local is hired to perform these services, options should be left open.

### *3.4 Internet Provider Selection*

The Town currently uses Granite State as its internet provider; Comcast is the other choice. Granite State is requiring that each building have a phone line, which makes it only slightly less expensive than Comcast. When the Town switches over to VOIP, Chairman Trask would like to be able to cancel these phone lines; it is unknown if this is possible. Both providers are comparable, with Comcast being perhaps a little faster. It was agreed that a small savings would not be worth the hassle of switching providers.

Road Agent Oleson asked if a telephone and internet could be made available at the Salt Shed; this is on the list. Mr. Myette asked if Wason Pond was included; it is. Chairman Trask is waiting to hear from Chris Hadik where the cameras are to go.

Insofar as other IT subjects are concerned, Alarm Systems Plus has run the new wiring. Next week it will be dropped, and Block 5 will be here with the new servers. Block 5 was at Town Hall yesterday installing the remote access software.

There was some confusion about buying out the nine PCs from Boston Systems; the ~\$2,000 figure they provided was for the end of July 2018, not 2017. The cost to buy them in 2017 is much higher, so these

PCs will not be retained. New ones will be purchased using funds from the Major Projects line.

#### **IV. Selectmen’s Business**

##### *4.1 Roundtable*

###### *Vice-Chairman Cannon:*

- The 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commission meets once each month, and the July meeting was last night. They are selling daffodils; one can purchase them for oneself, or for the Commission to plant in front of the rock wall at the Cemetery. Anyone who purchases \$100 worth also receives a memorial brick; there are larger ones for business supporters. There is a flyer in the hallway, and it can be downloaded from the front page of the Town website. **Chairman Trask moved that the Selectmen spend \$100 from the Miscellaneous line on daffodils and have them planted at Edwards Mill Dam; Vice-Chairman Cannon seconded the motion. The vote was four in favor with Selectman Buckley absent; motion carried.**

###### *Selectman D’Angelo:*

- Nothing to report.

###### *Selectman Owens:*

- Nothing to report.

###### *Chairman Trask:*

- He and Selectman D’Angelo attended the Busche Academy opening ceremonies today to welcome the new class of Chinese students. Selectman D’Angelo added that the Academy has a program where families can host a child from 9:30am – 6:30pm on Sundays as part of their cultural exchange; interested persons should contact Jill Hartmann at Busche Academy. The Selectmen have received a letter of resignation from Jason Coulter of the Fire Department; his last day is July 21<sup>st</sup>. The Selectmen wished Mr. Coulter good luck in his new position. **Selectman D’Angelo moved to accept the letter of resignation from Jason Coulter; Selectman Owens seconded the motion. The vote was four in favor with Selectman Buckley absent; motion carried.**
  - Jay Sweet sent in a Request For Action; he has been asked to attend the BOS Meeting of August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017, which is expected to be the next time that a full board is in attendance.
  - Recreation Director Corinna Reishus has asked permission to have the lock on the Wason Pond Community Center changed; the Selectmen had no issue with this.

##### *4.2 Public Comment*

As no Members of the Public wished to be heard, Public Comment was closed at 7:37pm.

##### *4.3 Non-Public Sessions*

**Vice-Chairman Cannon moved that the Board go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (a) Public Employees, (c) Reputation for two items, and (e) Pending Litigation; Selectman Owens seconded the motion. The vote was four in favor with Selectman Buckley absent; motion carried.**

The meeting room was closed at 7:37pm.

The meeting room was re-opened at 8:03pm.

**Chairman Trask moved that the Board come out of non-public session; Selectman D’Angelo**

**seconded the motion. The vote was four in favor with Selectman Buckley absent; motion carried.**

**Vice-Chairman Cannon moved that the minutes to the first non-public session, on Reputation, remain unsealed; Chairman Trask seconded the motion. The vote was four in favor with Selectman Buckley absent; motion carried.**

**Chairman Trask moved that the minutes to the second non-public session, on Public Employees, be sealed for a period of ninety (90) days; Vice-Chairman Cannon seconded the motion. The vote was four in favor with Selectman Buckley absent; motion carried.**

**Chairman Trask moved that the minutes to the third non-public session, on Reputation, be sealed for a period of ninety (90) days; Vice-Chairman Cannon seconded the motion. The vote was four in favor with Selectman Buckley absent; motion carried.**

**Vice-Chairman Cannon moved that the minutes to the fourth non-public session, on Pending Litigation, be sealed for an indefinite period; Chairman Trask seconded the motion. The vote was four in favor with Selectman Buckley absent; motion carried.**

#### **V. Adjournment**

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Selectmen will be Thursday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017.

**Chairman Trask moved to adjourn the meeting; Selectman Owens seconded the motion. The vote was four in favor with Selectman Buckley absent; motion carried.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:04pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra H. Doda  
Recording Secretary