

**Town of Chester
Board of Selectmen’s Meeting
Thursday, April 20, 2023
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)
Road Discontinuance
Investment Policy
Consent Agenda
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 6:00pm.

1.2 Roll Call

Selectmen Present:

Chuck Myette
Steve Couture (arrived at 6:03pm)
Dana Theokas
Dick Trask
Stephen Landau

Absent:

Debra Doda, Town Administrator

Members of the Public Present at various times:

Aaron Berube, Police Chief
Justine Celentano, Town Clerk, Tax Collector
Phil Gladu, Fire Chief
Mark Keddy
Nancy Myette
Jacob Rutledge
Nick Tranquillo

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 6:02pm.

As no Members of the Public wished to be heard, Public Comment was closed at 6:03pm.

II. Appointments

2.1 Road Discontinuance

Mr. Tranquillo, 344 Lane Road, would like to discuss the discontinuance of an extension of Ledge Road that runs through his property. Mr. Tranquillo and Town Administrator Doda (not present) worked together and found in 1984 a warrant article discontinuing this portion of Ledge Road.

Article 41. To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the following road: The extension of Ledge Road from the intersection of Lane Road to the Raymond Line. (By petition)

It is unclear if once it passed at the Town Meeting the discontinued road reverted to the abutters or remained town owned.

In 2009, the prior owners of the property attempted another warrant article.

Article 28 (submitted by citizen’s petition). To see if the Town will vote to discontinue that portion of Bald Hill Road pursuant to RSA 231:43 being that portion that runs from Lane Road northeasterly to the Raymond Town Line, bounded on the northwest by Tax Map 12 Lot 3 and the southeast by Tax Map 12 Lots 5 & 5-1 and further to authorize the Selectmen to convey the discontinued portion of the road to the abutting landowners.

Due to the petitioner not being present at the 2009 Town Meeting, this article had been tabled.

Mr. Tranquillo would like to merge his properties, renovate the house, and repave his driveway; however, with what could be a Class VI Road separating his properties, the renovations would be impacted by setbacks. Chairman Myette would like Town Counsel to give their opinion before moving on with this discussion. Selectman Landau advised if it needs to go to Town Meeting, the Selectboard could place it on the warrant.

III. New Business

3.1. Investment Policy

Chairman Myette questioned if Town Treasurer Lamphere would be presenting the Treasurer’s Investment Policy. Ms. Jalbert was unaware. Selectman Trask mentioned it was already on the agenda when he was going to request it to be placed on the agenda.

Selectman Trask pointed out the Town has a significant amount of funds invested and any CDs over \$250K are not FDIC insured. Selectman Trask suggested moving some of the money to other institutions.

Selectman Trask mentioned the executive order just signed by Governor Sununu directing State entities to prioritize investment returns and minimize risk in fulfillment of the fiduciary duties. Vice Chairman Couture stated that is for the State and not municipalities.

Chairman Myette inquired if a committee or working group is needed to review what the Town has invested, where it is invested, and if we are on track.

Vice Chairman Couture pointed out if ESG (environmental, social and corporate governance) is needed in the investment policy, then look at where in the policy it should be written. Chairman Myette stated the action for this is to have Town Treasurer Lamphere attend a meeting for discussion. Prior to that a small group can look at what changes should be made to the policy.

Vice Chairman Couture suggested working with Town Treasurer Lamphere and ask if the town’s investments greater than \$250K are at risk and, if so, how to mitigate it.

If a working group is needed it should include Finance, Treasurer, Trustees of the Trust Funds, Wilcomb Townsend Trustees, Cemetery Trustees, and the Library Trustees.

IV Consent Agenda

4.1 BOS Rules of Procedure

No comments on the procedures.

Vice Chairman Couture motioned to approve the Selectboard Rules of Procedure. Selectwoman Theokas seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Myette – aye, Trask– nay, Theokas –aye, Couture –aye, Landau – nay. With three in favor, the motion passed.

V. Selectmen’s Business

4.1 Chairman’s Announcements

Chairman Myette announced the following meetings and upcoming events:

Wednesday April 26, 2023	Planning Board Meeting at 7:00pm
Monday May 1, 2023	Wason Pond Commission Meeting at 7:00pm
Wednesday May 3, 2023	Planning Board Meeting at 7:00pm
Wednesday May 3, 2023	School Board Meeting at 7:00pm

150 Thursday May 4, 2023 Board of Selectman Meeting at 6:00pm
151
152 Saturday April 22, 2023 Drug Takeback Day 10:00am -2:00pm at the Transfer Station.
153 Selectwoman Theokas announced Officer Crumb would be
154 there and to stop by and say goodbye. It is one of his last shifts
155 in town.
156
157 Saturday April 29, 2023 Household Hazardous Waste Day 9:00am to 12:00pm at the
158 Plaistow Public Works Facility 144F Main Street.
159
160 The Town has been informed by DOT that they plan to pave a section of Route 121 starting on
161 Monday, April 24th, 2023, and lasting approximately two weeks - hopefully finishing by Friday, May
162 5th, 2023. The section to be paved is the 3.8 miles that runs from the flashing light at the 102/121
163 intersection southeast to the Derry/Sandown corner of Town. Please expect delays, drive patiently,
164 and we apologize for any inconvenience.
165
166 *4.2 Roundtable*
167
168 Selectman Landau:
169 *Nothing to report.*
170
171 Selectwoman Theokas mentioned volunteers from Chester Academy, Baseball/Softball League, and
172 Busche Academy helped get the fields ready for the season.
173
174 Selectman Trask:
175 *Nothing to report.*
176
177 Vice Chairman Couture mentioned the Solar Working group will be coming to be appointed by the
178 Selectboard at the May 19th meeting.
179
180 Chairman Myette:
181 *Nothing to report.*
182
183 *4.3 Town Administrator’s Report*
184 *None*
185
186 *4.4 Action Items*
187 *None*
188
189 *4.5 Non-Public Session(s)*
190
191 Chairman Myette announced two non-public sessions.
192
193 ***Selectman Landau motioned to go into non-public session pursuant to 91-A:3(II) (c) reputation.***
194 ***Vice Chairman Couture seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Myette – aye, Trask– aye,***
195 ***Theokas –aye, Couture –aye, Landau – aye. With all in favor, the motion passed.***
196
197 The meeting was closed to the public at 6:26 PM.
198

Selectman Landau motioned to come out of non-public session. Vice Chairman Couture seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Myette – aye, Trask– aye, Theokas –aye, Couture –aye, Landau – aye. With all in favor, the motion passed.

The meeting was reopened to the public at 7:42 PM.

Selectman Landau motioned to seal the minutes of the first non-public session, on Reputation. Vice Chairman Couture seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Myette – aye, Trask– aye, Theokas –aye, Couture –aye, Landau – aye. With all in favor, the motion passed.

Selectman Landau motioned to seal the minutes of the second non-public session, on Reputation. Vice Chairman Couture seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Myette – aye, Trask– aye, Theokas –aye, Couture –aye, Landau – aye. With all in favor, the motion passed.

VI. Adjournment

Selectman Landau moved to adjourn the meeting. Vice Chairman Couture seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Myette – aye, Trask– aye, Theokas –aye, Couture –aye, Landau – aye. With all in favor, the motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:43 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Janis A. Jalbert
Recording Secretary